Message Text

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UNCLAS LONDON 14306

FOR: EB/TRP - MR. THOMAS O'DONNELL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, EPAP, ISO

SUBJECT: SUGAR -- CHAIRMAN'S IDEAS FOR ORGANIZATION OF NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE

1. BELOW IS TEXT OF A LETTER DATED AUGUST 25 FROM CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN, JONES-PARRY, DEVELOPING HIS IDEAS ON ORGANIZATION OF THE FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE. CONCERNING THE DRAFT ARTICLES REFERRED TO IN THE LETTER, JONES-PARRY SUGGESTED A FEW DAYS AGO THAT, WHEN READY, THESE BE CABLED TO SYDNEY FOR THE ATTENTION OF GAVIN CAMPBELL AT THE SAME TIME THAT THEY ARE FORWARDED TO THE ISO FOR CIRCULATION. JONES-PARRY PLANS TO DISCUSS THE DRAFTS WITH CAMPBELL BY TELEPHONE.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

"MANY THANKS FOR YOUR LETTER OF 23 AUGUST.
IT WILL BE VERY ENCOURAGING IF WE CAN GET FIRM DECISIONS
ON B.E.T.'S BY THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK AND ON PRICES BY
THE END OF THE SECOND, BUT I DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE
CATASTROPHIC IF WE DO NOT. IN FACT EXPERIENCE SUGGESTS
THAT INDIVIDUAL EXPORTERS WILL HOLD BACK ON B.E.T.'S AND
MAKE THE NECESSARY CONCESSIONS ONLY AS PART OF WHAT THEY
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TERM A NEGOTIATING "PACKAGE" IN THE LAST DAYS OF THE CONFERENCE. THIS MAY ALSO PROVE TO BE THE CASE ON PRICES - ANOTHER ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IN THE "PACKAGE" OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE TO BOTH EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS. IN ANY EVENT, THOSE ISSUES, CRUCIAL THOUGH THEY BE, NEED NOT HOLD UP PROGRESS ON QUOTA MECHANISM. IF A QUICK DECISION CAN BE REACHED THAT QUOTAS WILL BE OPERATIVE IN

THE LOWER HALF OF THE RANGE (AND THE JULY DISCUSSIONS ENCOURAGE ONE TO BELIEVE THAT THE ONLY ISSUE IS WHETHER QUOTAS WILL BE SUSPENDED AT X PLUS 4 OR X PLUS 5), THEN W.G. I CAN MAKE PROGRESS WITH DRAFTING ALMOST FROM THE BEGINNING.

THERE WILL BE DIFFICULT DECISIONS TO BE REACHED ON STOCKS AND FINANCING - SIZE, CARRYING COSTS, LOAN OR GRANT, AND THE RELUCTANCE OF THE SMALL IMPORTING COUNTRIES TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE FEE; BUT I TRUST THE GROUP OF EIGHT WHO ARE DUE TO MEET ME ON THE MORNING OF 12 SEPTEMBER WILL HAVE SOME ADVICE TO OFFER ON THE MACHINERY FOR RESOLVING THESE PROBLEMS. IN ANY EVENT I SHALL LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOUR DRAFT ARTICLES WHICH I WOULD PROPOSE TO FORWARD TO UNCTAD FOR CIRCULATION AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR HELP AND ENCOURAGEMENT."

STREATOR

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